

The President's Daily Brief

15 September 1969

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MIDDLE EAST

Israel's repeated air attacks in the northern Gulf of Suez area--yesterday's was the fifth in six days--may fore-shadow heavier ground and air action against Egyptian forces along the Gulf or the Suez Canal. We note that these strikes have been accompanied by public warnings from Dayan of "heavier blows" to come on the cease-fire lines, and from Allon of the possibility of "larger-scale ground, air, and sea actions."

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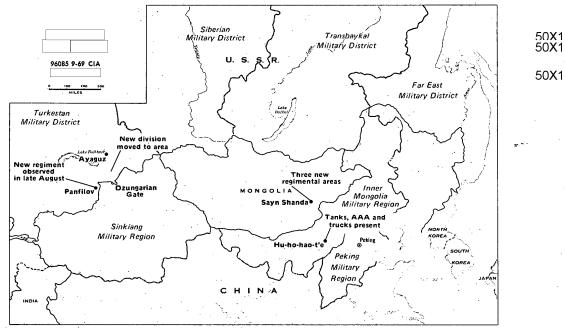
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New Ground Forces Move Into Sino-Soviet Border Areas



SOVIET UNION - COMMUNIST CHINA

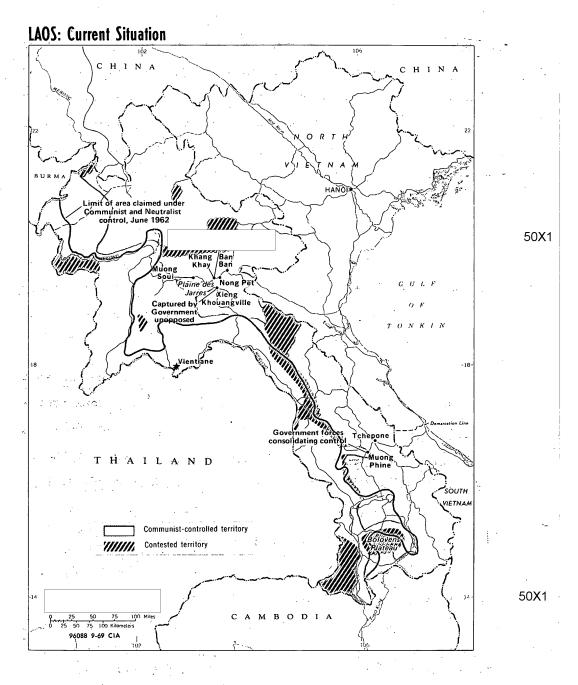
The Soviets continue gradually to increase their strength on the China border. Satellite photography of early September indicates that the military installation at Sayn Shanda in Mongolia will be expanded to accommodate a division. Three new regimental areas have been identified; the installation previously housed one or two regiments. The small number of vehicles present indicates that the new units have not yet arrived.

In the Turkestan Military District, a division probably has been moved to the Ayaguz - Dzungarian Gate area near the Sinkiang border. More than 100 tanks--enough for at least a tank regiment--are at Ayaguz, and extensive storage facilities are being constructed in this area.

In China, at least 70 tanks, 18 antiaircraft pieces, and 70 trucks are located just north of Hu-ho-hao-t'e in Inner Mongolia. This is the closest that Chinese tanks have been noted to the Mongolian border.

Laos

Government troops moved unopposed into Xieng Khouangville and the surrounding hills on Friday. Elsewhere in northern Laos, however, they have made only slight progress. Large stocks of Communist supplies are being destroyed in the Khang Khay area, but determined enemy resistance continues on the northern periphery of the Plaine des Jarres. Although there



is still	l no	eviden	ce of	enemy	prep	arat	ions	for	a	major	count	er-
action,	the	Pathet	Lao	news a	gency	has	warn	ed o	of	"unpre	ce-	
dentedly	, hea	avy blo	ws" a	gainst	the	gove	rnmen	t of	fe	nsive.		

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In southern Laos, government forces are consolidating their control over the recently captured Muong Phine area. Intercepts show the Communists are closely watching this operation, which threatens their base at Tchepone and the infiltration corridor to South Vietnam. They have ordered reconnaissance and preparations to "strike back."